

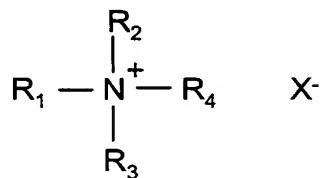
Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A quaternary ammonium composition is claimed which essentially consists of

a) a cationic compound with general formula:



wherein R_1 is $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkyl}$, $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkenyl}$, $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkylamidopropyl}$, $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkenyl-amidopropyl}$, $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkyl/alkenyl(poly)alkoxyalkyl}$, $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkanoylethyl}$ or $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkenoylethyl}$, R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkyl}$, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{22}\text{-alkenyl}$ or a group of the formula $-\text{A}-(\text{OA})_n-\text{OH}$, A is $-\text{C}_2\text{H}_4-$ and/or $-\text{C}_3\text{H}_6-$, n is a number from 0 to 20 and X is an anion, b) water and c) a non-ionic solvent of the general formula $\text{R-O-(AO)}_n\text{H}$, where R is hydrogen, alkyl or alkenyl containing 8 to 22 carbon atoms, or phenyl, A is C_2H_4 and/or C_3H_6 and n is a number from 0 to 20, which composition is characterized in that it contains less than 20 % by weight of water.